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LUCY HAWTHORNE

THE STAT SHEET

12

Years we have left to limit catastrophic effects of climate change, according to UN report.

74

Percentage of Minnesota voters who want the state to invest more in mass transit

6%

Minnesota voters who say the environment is the most important issue for them in this year's gubernatorial race

100%

Increase of plastic waste in our oceans expected by 2030

“Minneapolis has always been too cool for school.” —St. Paul

Ann A. Huse responds to “Survey says Minneapolis residents understand just how insufferably cliquy they are” on citypages.com

HOT TOPIC

WHAT A DIFFERENCE a half-degree makes. Global temperatures have risen 1 degree Celsius since the dawn of industrialism, and to avoid environmental catastrophe, global warming must stay below the maximum of 1.5C, a UN report filed on Monday explains. If global warming rises by even a half a degree over that limit, floods, drought, extreme heat, and poverty are imminent for hundreds of millions of people. Meanwhile, the Trump administration has released its own report estimating that the global temperature will rise 4C by 2100, a disastrous forecast it is using to justify freezing federal fuel-efficiency standards for cars made after 2020. We're already doomed, the report reasons, so let us cruise into our flame-broiled Mad Max future at 10 miles per gallon.

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There is one comment absolutely no one needs to make about **TAYLOR SWIFT's** political endorsement

BAD FAITH

Brooklyn Center pastor sexually assaulted a woman under the guise of exorcism



GETTY IMAGES

In 2017, Meally Morris Freeman, the pastor of Grace Mountaineer Tabernacle Church in Brooklyn Center, told a woman in his congregation that she had a demon in her body, and that she needed a one-on-one “deliverance” session so he could exorcise it.

The woman in question told police about what happened later. Her name has been

left out of the criminal complaint describing what happened during that session, which took place before Bible study. A warning: It is explicit.

The complaint says Freeman began the deliverance session by giving the allegedly possessed woman cups of oil to drink, and after she’d swallowed them down, they began to pray. She then “fell out,” as she put it—became listless and semi-conscious. She couldn’t remember exactly what had happened. But when she woke up, she noticed her stomach was slick with oil. So was the skin near her breasts. And her underwear was wet.

She says Freeman told her he had indeed “anointed” those areas, but that he hadn’t looked at all of them. In any case, he told her she’d need a second session later that evening—after Bible study was over. He told her to send her daughter home with a babysitter.

Once again, Freeman and the woman were alone, and once again, she “fell out.” But this time, when she woke up, she discovered her pants and underwear were hanging around her ankles, and her shirt and bra were pulled up over her chest. Her breasts and crotch were covered in oil. She caught sight of Freeman, who was dousing her with more oil from a water bottle.

The complaint says he ordered her to get on her hands and knees, and then to sit back with her legs spread apart, slicking her with oil and probing her with his finger while she was in each position. Finally, it was over. Freeman told her not to pick up her daughter from the babysitter. He “did not want people to know how late she was at the church,” the complaint says.

The woman eventually talked to a friend about her night at the church—the oil, the tears in her underwear, Freeman’s actions. Her friend told her she hadn’t experienced “deliverance” but something far less spiritual.

The woman spoke with Freeman again and brought up what happened that night. Freeman didn’t deny feeling her up and “insert[ing] things” into her. It was part of the “deliverance process,” he said. His

wife knew he sees women naked, that sometimes “things happen” during the process, that “deliverance can be very tempting.” What Freeman didn’t know was that the woman was secretly recording the conversation.

The complaint says the woman then sat down with Freeman, his wife, and a church elder to confront him about what he’d done to her. Freeman and his wife, it says, asked her not to report it to the police. She did.

Freeman was convicted of two counts of third-degree criminal sexual assault last Monday in Hennepin County District Court. He’s still in custody, and prosecutors are seeking a sentence of 58 months in prison. We’ll know his fate in November, when he’s expected to be sentenced.

That, according to Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman (no relation), is pretty much a “top of the box” sentence for sexual assaults of this variety.

“We in the county attorney’s office are pretty incensed by this, too,” he says. And the fact that the jury took only 20 minutes to get to a verdict, he says, tells you something.

“I think the jury saw through whatever he said about ‘a deliverance process’ pretty quickly.” —HANNAH JONES

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ON THE MEND

Musician Aaron 'Hix' Lee recovering after being shot in the gut during a robbery in Northeast

Last Friday, Sam Cassidy was on his way to northeast Minneapolis' 331 Club when he saw the flicker of strobing lights. Police and ambulance, by the look of it. There was some kind of commotion.

A couple of friends were headed that way already, so they brought him up to speed. It was Hix, they said. He'd been shot.

Cassidy has played music with Aaron "Hix" Lee, best known for strumming, plunking keys, and singing for Red Daughters, for about a decade. As long as Cassidy's known him, Lee has always been ready to record as long as he wasn't already working. The nickname "Hix" comes from when Lee was a little kid, and his brothers used to call him, adorably, "Hickory Walnut."

Lee's musicianship aside, his true gift is making the world love him. There's an exuberant affability to his personality—a certain indiscriminate openness—that endears Lee to strangers almost instantly,

Cassidy says.

"Once you meet Hix, you're friends with him," he says. "There's not much area in between that."

It had been a mugging. Lee and his girlfriend, Katie Szczepaniak, had been walking home when a car reportedly pulled up beside them. A man with a gun jumped out and ordered them to hand over their wallets, which they did... but the mugger turned around and shot Lee in the gut anyway.

Szczepaniak had been able to conceal her phone during the stickup, so she called 911 and got him to the nearest hospital. As soon as Cassidy heard, he headed that way too, and proceeded to wait in the OR. Hours passed, and it became clear that Lee would be in no shape for visitors that night. Cassidy headed home.

The bullet had hit Lee just below his navel. It shaved off a bit of his colon and cut a vein in his abdomen. It then found a home in his leg. His Gofundme page says it will be there for the rest of his life. Lee



Aaron "Hix" Lee

FROM GOFUNDME

"Once you meet Hix, you're friends with him."

underwent three surgeries to reconnect the circuitry that allowed blood to return to his heart. By Saturday night, he had finally stabilized. By Sunday morning, he was awake.

He seemed like himself, Cassidy says, if a little groggy. He was already "cracking jokes" and asking questions. An update to the Gofundme says that the first thing out of his mouth when he awoke was "I hate this room."

"Sunday was definitely a relief," Cassidy says.

It wasn't the only unexpected ray of hope after a dark night. The Gofundme page set up to pay for Lee's medical expenses—he's uninsured—has already raised \$38,000. The original goal had

been \$20,000, and it has been raised to \$100,000.

"It's hard to say you can expect to get that much money for anything, really," Cassidy says. But that's the kind of person Lee is. He smiles, tells a joke, and instantly makes himself beloved to the room. The fundraising page is full of comments imploring "Hix" to heal quickly and come back swinging.

There has been no thought as to what Lee's fellow musicians will do without him in the meantime. Cassidy didn't say whether they will play in his absence. It's too soon after the shock of it all to contemplate the future.

"We just want him to be okay," Cassidy says. —HANNAH JONES

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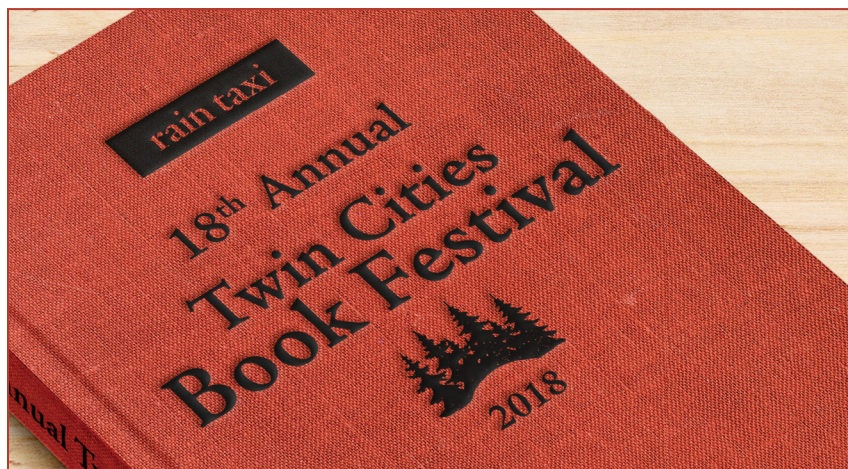
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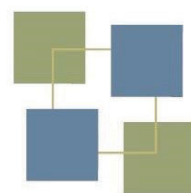
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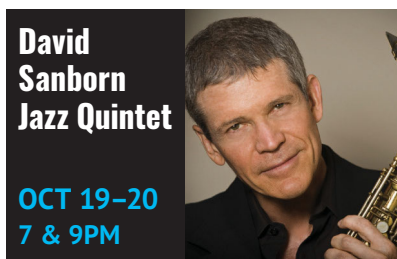
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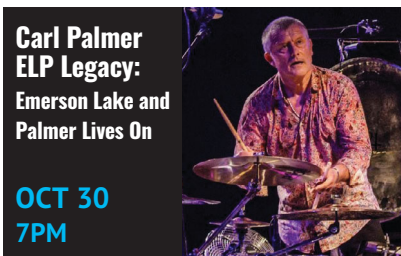
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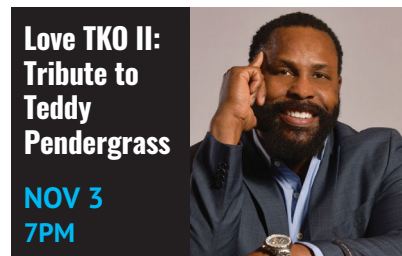
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Nick Hall can fill stadiums—but can he bridge the growing political, racial, and generational divide among evangelical Christians?

By NATHAN ROBERTS

Bounding enthusiastically across the stage at U.S. Bank Stadium, Nick Hall could easily be mistaken for one of those young pastors you see popping up around Justin Bieber. The rising evangelical star affects an “urban” voice. He wears a black leather jacket. His jeans are tight and distressed.

And his self-deprecating jokes about being a “white boy from North Dakota” are clearly landing well with the crowd of around 40,000. The black family next to me, Bibles in hands, laugh and nod along.

But if, like me, you were an evangelical kid who spent the ’80s and ’90s being carted by the busload to Christian events, Hall raises some red flags. He looks like the latest incarnation of the “cool” pastors who lured teenagers into stadiums with Christian rock bands—and then indoctrinated them on the need for prayer in public schools, the dangers of teaching evolution, the rise of the gay lifestyle, and, of course, the mass murder of the unborn.

At 35, Hall has been recognized as a leading voice among a new generation of evangelicals. *Fox & Friends* went so far as to call him “the Billy Graham of the next generation.” And that’s not just hype: Hall and his evangelical organization Pulse, based in northeast Minneapolis, have been drawing stadium crowds across the country. His pre-election “unity rally” in 2016, Together, filled the National Mall in Washington, D.C. with hundreds of thousands of young evangelicals. And this past May, Hall came home to fill U.S. Bank Stadium for a free event dubbed “Pulse Twin Cities.”

The billboards advertising this event had touted its potential for diversity, showing Hall, in a shirt that read “TOGETHER,” next to the black Christian rapper Lecrae in a “STAY WOKE” shirt. Lecrae was a bold choice: His white evangelical listeners had all but abandoned him after he spoke up about racial injustice after Ferguson, and Lecrae in turn had publicly distanced himself from the term “evangelical” after 82 percent of self-identified white evangelical voters went for Trump.

Looking around the stadium, it’s fair to say Pulse Twin Cities has delivered on the

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COURTESY OF PULSE

Nick Hall at Together in Washington, D.C. in 2016

stadium's promise. Around 30 percent of those in attendance are people of color—an impressive number when you consider that evangelicals, like much of the country, are deeply divided by race, and it's gotten worse since the 2016 election.

As for Hall, he can clearly work a big room. He interviews a crew of Vikings players, including a video of Kirk Cousins. He plays hype man for Lecrae. Finally, it's time for the pastor, Bible in hand, to begin his sermon. I brace for impact.

But Hall begins with something unexpected: "I want to start by apologizing to anyone who has ever felt judged by anyone calling themselves a Christian." His short sermon centers on connecting with a loving God. Healing from the scars of self-harm, hatred, and judgmentalism. How Jesus calls people to love your neighbor as yourself. There's no gay-bashing. No abortion-condemning. No hellfire. "I want you to know that God loves you," Hall says. "And your life matters."

Those last three words bring to mind Lecrae's "STAY WOKE" T-shirt and, of course, Black Lives Matter.

Hall pauses again, and I lean forward, wondering if Nick Hall is about to do something truly remarkable. Maybe this white millennial evangelical is about to explicitly condemn the racism and sexism that plague our country, say the words "black lives matter," maybe even call out Donald Trump by name.

He doesn't. Hall's sermon focuses instead on love, forgiveness, and unity, and the closest he comes to mentioning racism and sexism are vague references to "judgment and hatred."

Nick Hall may jump and dance with joyous abandon onstage, but he's considerably more cautious in what he chooses to say than his demeanor suggests. That's maybe to be expected. Hall leads a movement that tries to address the social justice issues important to many young Christians

without alienating their more conservative elders—and that's a tightrope walk that gets trickier every day.

One hot afternoon, two months after Pulse Twin Cities, Hall sits across from me at a picnic table outside Spyhouse Coffee in northeast Minneapolis, just about a mile from his HQ. He's close enough that I can see him sweat through his "TOGETHER" T-shirt, and in conversation his hip-hop hypeman voice is gone. He now sounds like an actual white boy from North Dakota.

Hall lives in Maple Grove with his wife and two kids, but he's hardly embraced suburban isolation. He gets his hair cut at a Muslim-owned barber shop in northeast Minneapolis. "Part of the story of me even going there was confronting a weird sense of fear, and I would equate that to growing up not being around a lot of Muslim people and watching too much 24," he says, with a racial self-awareness rarely heard from evangelical pastors. "But now every other week I'm in there hanging out with those guys and it's right next to the mosque in Northeast. And I'm the only white guy I've ever seen in there."

Hall's barbers even helped him promote Pulse Twin Cities. "For them it was a promotion for their haircuts," he says. "They were so excited. 'Our haircuts are on billboards!'"

Hall was born in 1982, the middle child of two stoic Midwestern parents in a small town outside Fargo, North Dakota. Like many white evangelicals raised in such places, Hall grew up in a sheltered, conservative home. "I didn't have a lot of friends who were liberal or Democrat," he says. "It was the age of Bill Clinton and Monica

Lewinsky, and it was easy to pigeonhole liberals as more loose on values.”

Hall’s father was a manager at a fire protection agency and his mom stayed at home raising the kids. “My parents were pretty strongly pro-life,” he says. “They would vote according to that. The political spectrum revolved around Roe v. Wade.”

But as with many evangelicals his age, Hall gradually discovered that the world was more complicated than he’d been led to believe. He started attending nearby Oak Grove Lutheran High School, which had a large population of international students. Hall studied alongside Sudanese refugees, teenagers who’d survived the Rwandan genocide, Japanese students who’d lost family at Nagasaki or Hiroshima.

His new friendships expanded the issues Hall cared about, which he describes as “human trafficking, clean water, systems of poverty, racism, issues of privilege. The response of anyone claiming to follow Jesus should be to alleviate suffering,” he states.

Such values had been on display at U.S. Bank Stadium in May. Booths lined the stadium raising support for urban mentoring program the Man Up Club and clean water in the developing world with World Vision. But when asked directly about the role of evangelicals in politics, Hall reverts to generalities. “Millennial evangelicals are frustrated and concerned about politics right now,” Hall says, and while the look on his face suggests he is too, he’s not prepared to be explicit about his political opinions.

“They’re frustrated with the guilt by association that is happening right now,” he continues. “I think there is a large feeling that we are taking a short-term ‘win,’ which isn’t even a win, for a very long-term loss. There is so much baggage that we are accumulating right now.”

Still, Hall is cautiously hopeful. “This has been festering under the surface for so long,” he says. “You hate to say anything good comes from things that are awful.



COURTESY OF PULSE

Nick Hall and a young evangelical at Winter Jam

But every time there is an act of injustice it forces a conversation about justice.”

Hall has been having these conversations about justice with evangelicals for the past 10 years. He first made a name for himself speaking to 5,000 of his fellow students in 2006 at North Dakota State University. Two years later 7,000 young people came to his talk at the Bismark Civic Center, which began with a prayer from the Republican governor and first lady, John and Mikey Hoeven. Hall’s non-profit, Pulse, opened a national office in Minneapolis in 2010; its revenue neared \$10 million in 2016, almost entirely from direct donations.

Hall’s work has also earned him a seat on the National Association of Evangelicals, which represents 45,000 churches—that’s the evangelical equivalent of being on the NBA Board of Directors. “It’s not something I lead with—‘evangelical’ has a very negative connotation,” Hall admits before adding quickly, as though anticipating the next question, “but there are people on that board who aren’t Republican at all.”

Hall’s rise to prominence has coincided with a shift in values among younger evan-

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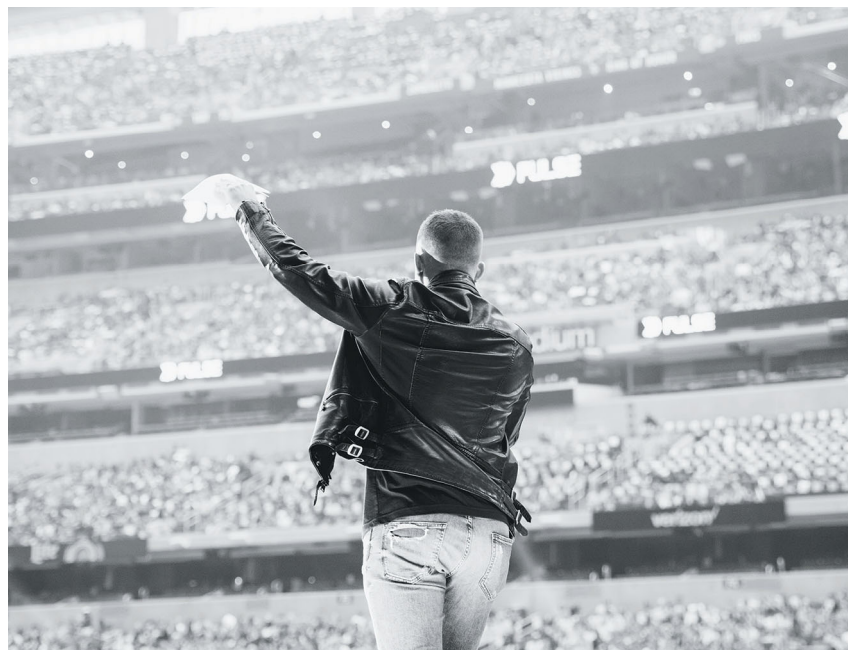


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COURTESY OF PULSE

Nick Hall at Pulse Twin Cities
at U.S. Bank Stadium this May

gelicals. While still more conservative than their peers, they're much less so than their parents. For instance, a Pew Research study showed 47 percent of Generation X/millennial evangelicals now favor gay marriage, compared with 26 percent of their elders.

"Diversity is a huge value for millennials and Gen Z," Hall has noticed. "Abortion is a big issue for younger people but it isn't a central issue."

And that's had an effect on partisan identification. "I don't think there are many millennials who think, 'How can you be a Democrat and a Christian?'" Hall says. "People have a lot of friends on different sides of the aisle."

Hall smiles whenever he talks about connecting people, a topic he's clearly more comfortable discussing than the specific causes that divide them. "Obama's chief of staff coming to NAE meetings, Melinda Gates talking about women's issues, issues of World Relief, advocacy of refugees—those are the good things happening," he says.

But in 2016, the year of Hall's greatest success to date, he also discovered how hard some divisions can be to overcome.

As the 2016 presidential election approached, American evangelicalism was gearing up for a war along generational lines. Its most prominent conservative leaders—including Jerry Falwell Jr., the 56-year-old president of Liberty University; and Franklin Graham, evangelical legend Billy Graham's 66-year-old son—had rallied around Trump and Pence. But Hall, along with many of his generation, was increasingly uncomfortable with the evangelical embrace of the Republican candidates. "None of these [NAE] leaders were thinking, 'This is my guy,'" he recalls.

Hall decided to throw another big event. But rather than endorsing either candidate, he characteristically decided to seek middle ground. He planned Together, an event at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. that would encourage evangelicals to get past traditional partisan divides.

The plan struck a note with his generation. Hall enlisted a racially diverse team of evangelical leaders from Francis Chan to Rev. Samuel Rodriguez. A diverse slate of musical performances was scheduled, including Lecrae and singer Michael W. Smith. A thousand churches from across the country agreed to send young people to the rally.

And Hall invited both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

"We wanted to have both candidates on stage together in 2016, and our proposition was that neither would speak but that we would pray for them," Hall explains. "We didn't want people having microphones saying who knows what."

The Together rally was a success, with approximately 300,000 evangelicals, most of them young, pouring in from across the country. They gathered to sing, to hear a diverse array of speakers ask them to get beyond party politics, to pray for unity and civility, and to pledge to work for justice in America. Even Pope Francis sent a video of support.

Some of the figures onstage were much more explicit than Hall in their political stances. Lecrae rapped about being black in America: "It's hard to dream when your water ain't clean," Lecrae rapped; evangelist Lou Engle led the crowd in a call for God to "break racism." "They shut it down five hours early because they didn't believe so many young people were coming,

and we blew their infrastructure to serve a crowd that big,” Hall says with a smile.

But not everything went according to plan. While Trump had agreed to come, Clinton, a life-long Methodist, refused the invitation.

“Trump and the right side wanted to be there and we couldn’t get Hillary’s party to be there,” Hall says. “But we were not going to have one side without the other.” So Hall did something so few evangelicals were willing to do: He uninvited Trump.

Some divides, it seems, were just too wide to bridge.

After Together, Hall returned to Minnesota to find another challenge waiting. The community was reeling from the police killing of Philando Castile. Again, Hall sought to bring people together, working with Pastor Steve Daniels from Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in St. Paul and suburban white ministers.

“We tried to be a convener, to have some of the black churches in the Twin Cities meet with some of the white suburban churches,” he says. “We had a couple forums. Hearing a black pastor going for a walk with this wife, with his hoodie up, and having four cop cars pull up on him in Apple Valley—hearing stories like that gives everyone more empathy and understanding.”

When asked if he attended any of the Castile protests, Hall pauses. “There are people who feel called to be on the front lines confronting things,” he says at last, choosing his words carefully. “And then there are people who are helping people get meetings with people who they couldn’t—a neutral convener around a neutral table.”

Hall continues, speaking with more conviction. “You can’t be neutral on everything. Racism is wrong.” Then his tone changes. “But I have family members who are in the police force and I want to remain in my family. I think there are complex things, if I am rallying with people it’s a slippery slope of becoming guilty by association.”

“Jesus was guilty by association.” I reply, unable to hide the frustration in my voice. “Jesus was arrested and killed for protesting.” Hall doesn’t get mad or indignant, or talk about how much more he had to lose. He just listens.

At moments like this, Hall reminds me of the church kids I’d grown up with: polite, kind, warm... and very guarded. The tension between his desire to remain “in the family,” whether among his own blood relatives or the larger national evangelical family, is palpable, and it defined so many of the people I knew from evangelicalism. They’re caught between the conviction to stand against injustice and the desire to remain connected to their more conservative family and religious

communities, between their desire to be able to show up for their friends of color and still be welcome at their own family Thanksgiving dinner table and church on Sunday.

But many evangelicals of color think Nick Hall and his brand of bridge-building white evangelicals are playing it far too safe. “I need white evangelical leaders to be honest from the stage,” says Brandi Miller, a black writer for HuffPost and campus pastor at the University of Oregon. “I need them to explicitly say that Trump does not embody evangelical Christian values. They need to stop pretending to be neutral. I am tired of white people worrying about

alienating other white people’s feelings, when people of color are being alienated in reality by unjust policies.”

Hall sees such demands to choose sides as interfering with his goal to start conversations that will build relationships inside and outside of evangelicalism. “The challenge is to put skin on the other side of the issues—pro-Trump, against Trump, pro-life, pro-LGBTQ issues,” he says. “Do you know anybody? Do you have a friend? Stop talking about immigration or Muslims. There are so many issues because people don’t have relationships.”

Hall’s methods are destined to frustrate those to his left and to his right, but he

insists that his tricky tightrope walk is necessary. “There is an undercurrent that wants to see hope and love, the best things that people see in Jesus. And there is a movement that wants to see those things manifest,” he says with a smile. “And that will result in more discussions of justice and reconciliation and a better way of how we disagree. You can lower the bar for partnership. You don’t have to agree on everything to work together.”

He says with the conviction of someone who really believes it. And at least one hundred thousand evangelicals who agree with him will descend on Texas Motor Speedway later this month. ☐



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BY JESSICA ARMBRUSTER,
JAY BOLLER, EMILY CASSEL,
AND KEITH HARRIS

HAT TRICK?

All the new foods at Xcel Energy Center, ranked

The National Hockey League's been around since 1917 (and the Wild franchise since a liiiittle more recently than that), but the food and drink options need to stay as sharp as the skates carving up the ice. That means this year, as every year, there are a bunch of rookie offerings—and as veteran eaters, we tried 'em all to bring you our verdicts.

In 2018, we're debuting our patented Penalty Box!, Face-Off!, Hat Trick! rankings, wherein Penalty Box = bad, Face-Off = fine, and Hat Trick = good. Admittedly, it's more clunky and less intuitive than the Strikeout!, Walk!, Home Run! system we apply at Target Field.

Take it up with the NHL.

GENERAL CONCESSIONS

Penne & Marinara

House-made marinara and meatballs tossed with Italian pasta and served with a cheesy garlic breadstick, \$12

We didn't read the blurb above before chowing down on this, and so were delighted when, cracking into the accompanying breadstick, we encountered a cheesy surprise inside. Unfortunately, our taste buds didn't turn up the promised "garlic," nor did we get salt, or Parmesan, or anything in the way of seasoning. The penne and meatballs were firmly in "fine" territory, and you could perhaps salvage the dense, doughy stick with a deep dunk in your marinara. But should a piece of bread stuffed with cheese ever need salvaging? *Verdict: Penalty Box!*



Shrimp kabobs go for a street-food vibe.

EMILY CASSEL

Minnesota Brat

Apple-bacon kraut, horseradish mustard on a fresh wild rice bun, \$11

We'll say about this apple-bacon-cabbage mix what we've said about Christoph Waltz: Put that kraut in everything! But seriously folks, the savory-sweet ferment was perfect atop what could have been a one-note brat, adding a fresh kick to the meaty tube below. And speaking of kick: For a "Minnesota Brat," the horseradish mustard had some real heat—not Minnesota Spicy in the slightest. It's up to the fresh bun to bring the 'Sota,

then... and it does, delightfully, with wild rice flecked throughout its squishy shell.

Verdict: Hat Trick!

Barbacoa Tacos

Slow-roasted brisket, hand-shredded with traditional accompaniments, \$13

Among the "traditional accompaniments" this soul-extinguishing taco touts is shredded iceberg lettuce, which is the first giveaway that what you're about to consume is little more than a gussied-up variant of what you'd assemble yourself at a cafeteria taco bar. What should set these tacos

apart is the brisket, but the meat is not only chewy, but somehow both bland and overly limey, which is kind of an impressive achievement when you think about it. If not so much when you eat it. Taco? More like tac-*no*. *Verdict: Penalty Box!*

Super Slice

Italian pizza crust, homemade pizza sauce, and mozzarella, \$8

Can it leap over buildings? Can it spin webs? Can it turn green and smash holes in the pavement? No, no, and... probably not. So unless you consider "making you not hungry anymore" a superpower, this slice isn't *quite* as advertised. Granted, "Slice That Tastes Like a Better-Than-Average Frozen Pizza" doesn't have the same ring, and it'd be hard to squeeze all those words on the display. You've almost certainly gobbled (and loved) a worse slice after a night of beers, and you probably will again. But you've got other options here. *Verdict: Face-Off!*

City Burger

Fresh ground chuck and brisket seared to perfection and served on a fresh milk bun, \$10 (single), \$13 (capitol), or \$14 (double)

Our critical faculties were toyed with throughout the City Burger journey. At first, we thought we'd grabbed the vegan Impossible Burger, and were astounded by its crumbly, juicy patty and convincingly beefy flavor. It's as if the plant-based lab creation had forged a perfect diploma from Bovine University! Alas, we were mistaken: We were eating a classic, cow-based burger. And a pretty darn good one, too. The fresh chuck/brisket patty won't wow anyone, but it's sandwiched by a densely delicious bun and topped (or rather, bottomed) with snappy pickles. In the pantheon of sports-arena burgers, this

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FOOD

one ranks high, though it can't compete with Target Center's Parlour Burger—not many can. **Verdict: Hat Trick!**

THE RESERVE

Chicken Osso Bucco

Frenched chicken legs, creamy polenta, gremolata, thyme jus, \$16

In Kanye parlance, this is less stadium food, more French-ass restaurant food. The backbone of the dish is the Frenched chicken leg, aka the chicken lollipop: a tangerine-sized ball of dark meat ready to be plucked off the end of a bone. The skin crackles nicely as you dig in, but the juicy chicken is too aggressively seasoned, resulting in one salt-drenched lolly. These high-concept limbs rest on a passable bed of polenta. Admirable ambition, uneven execution. Our guess? Hockey fans—from the cheap seats to the suites—would likely prefer gnawing on egalitarian chicken wings. **Verdict: Face-Off!**

Chimichurri Shrimp Kabobs

Red pepper fennel sauce, cilantro-pineapple slaw, brown rice, \$16

These perfectly serviceable kabobs are going for a street-food vibe. The shrimp comes speared on a stick, covered in a green chimichurri that isn't as bright or as fresh as what you might find at a food truck, but it does have some nice enough wisps of red pepper and jalapeño. The cilantro-pineapple slaw pairs well with the crustaceans, but a little heat could take these skewers up a notch. **Verdict: Face-Off!**

Meatball and Peppadew Flat Bread

Ricotta, pizza sauce, stone-fired flatbread crust, \$14

We all know flatbread is just pretentious pizza. And if this adequate meatball, cheese, and sauce conveyance device pays suitable homage to its simpler cousin, its inclusion of the trendy, hifalutin peppadew pepper as well is an unseemly putting-on of airs. The crust is slightly tastier than that of the Super Slice, and the toppings have more character. But it's nothing special. And you deserve something special. **Verdict: Face-Off!**

Beef and Wild Mushroom Ragu

Slow-braised beef, mushrooms, onions, and tomatoes with potato gnocchi, \$18

Just give us a damn brat! Fussy pasta dishes are not appropriate for watching toothless, 250-pound brutes slam each other into Plexiglas. Especially when they're limp attempts like this one, with tough bits of beef and slimy knobs of gnocchi. The mushrooms pack some appealingly earthy tones, and the braising does imbue the beef with some flavorful depth. Mostly, though, this ragu falls victim to this ol' truism: Keep white-tablecloth fare far away from sheets of ice. **Verdict: Penalty Box!** See the full rankings at citypages.com.

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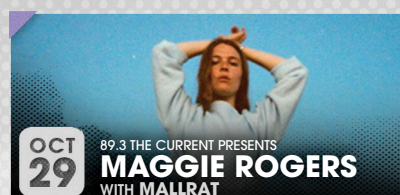
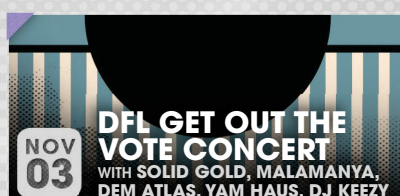
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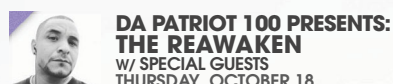
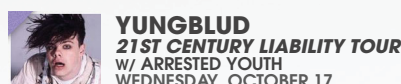
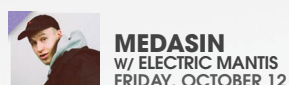
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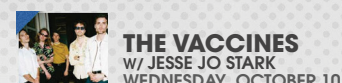


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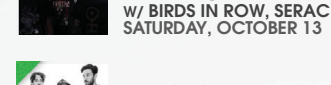
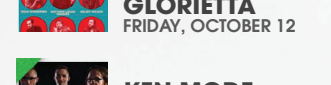
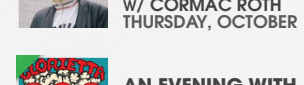


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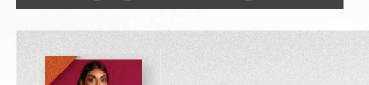
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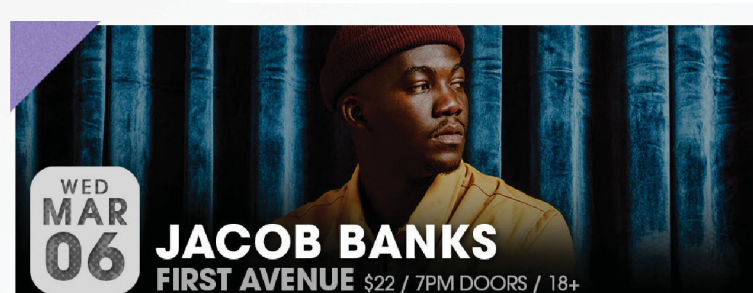
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DANCE

ALL HAIL THE QUEEN

GOODALE THEATER

The voice, the vagina, and their innate power as a means of creative expression—the female body, in other words—are at the center of Deborah Jinza Thayer and Movement Architecture's new work, *All Hail the Queen*. Could there be a better cultural and political context for this piece? Sadly, no. The guided journey begins in the lobby and hallways before settling onstage. No intimate female anatomy will be on display; rather, movement will stand in for an array of cultural, historical, and embodied experiences. Also, there are puppets! Local phenom movers include Julia Davidson, Non Edwards, Erika Hansen, Christine Maginnis, Sharon Picasso, Eve Schulte, Erin Thompson, and Roxane Wallace. 11 a.m. Wednesday (a kid-friendly performance); 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1 and 5:30 p.m. Sunday. \$29; pay-as-you-go Wednesday and early Sunday show. 528 Hennepin Ave., Cowles Center, Minneapolis; 612-339-4944. **Through Sunday —CAMILLE LEFEVRE**

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"I fell in love with comedy because Boston had such a strong comedy scene and so many great comics," says Boston native Alex Edelman. In his pursuit of comedy, Edelman started going to music open mics before being told that there were specific open mics for comedy. While he was influenced by his local heroes, he quickly found his own voice. Onstage these days he'll poke fun at his hometown. "I'm from a really racist part of Boston," he tells an audience, "called Boston." He also talks about his heritage and his upbringing as an Orthodox Jew. "I've never had bacon," he says, "I'm that kind of Jew. I've tried cocaine, but I've never had bacon." When considering



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VINCENT NIGHT

career paths, Edelman was also into sports, but seeing comedy live tipped the scales. "I was big fan of Brian Regan," he says of his first exposure to standup. "Then, I saw Denis Leary host a benefit show." Meanwhile, one of his brothers, Adam, stuck with sports and is on Israel's Olympic skeleton team. 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday —P.F. WILSON**

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WALKER ART CENTER

International arts collective Slavs and Tatars is stopping by the Walker Art

Center this week for an artsy lecture and performance in conjunction with Siah Armajani's exhibition, "Follow This Line." Slavs and Tatars was formed in 2006 by a Polish-Iranian duo, and has expanded over the years to include artists from around the world. Thursday's event will take on race and communism within the context of Russia and the Soviet Union, deep-diving into slave trade histories while providing insights into blackness, orientalism, and multiculturalism from non-Western perspectives. To add to your experience, make sure to stop by Armajani's interactive installation in Gallery 7, where you'll find numerous publications by the group's Red-Black Thread reading list. You can peruse the books while

enjoying the cool furniture and reading nooks designed by the artist. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. **—SHEILA REGAN**

COMEDY

ROCKY LAPORTE

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

"I'm on the road a lot and trying to figure out the next step in my career," says comedian Rocky LaPorte from his home in Chicago. "I'm out there too much." While he enjoys the intimacy of clubs, he likes the idea of playing small theaters and working his way up to big houses a la Kathleen Madigan, Brian Regan, and Ron White. He features for White about once a month. "You get to a certain point in your career," he adds, "where those long weeks beat you down. I've been doing this for 30 years." You wouldn't know that looking at him. "I'm beat to shit," he admits, laughing. He's not complaining, though, as he loves being a standup comic. "Before doing comedy I drove semis, loaded and unloaded freight. I felt old at 29," he says. "My back hurt and I was sore every day." His dream gig would be a residency in Las Vegas similar to what fellow comic George Wallace has. "Get off the road, park your ass in one spot, and have the people come to you. Nothing wrong with that." 16+. 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16-\$23. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday —P.F. WILSON**

FESTIVAL

ARTS QUARTER FESTIVAL 2018

WEST BANK ARTS QUARTER

The University of Minnesota's Arts Quarter Festival, now in its third year, offers a mix of happenings both indoors and outdoors. This year the U is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and the fest will honor and showcase the works of faculty and students. There'll be photography and visual art exhibits, tunes from electro-pop rockers Marimba, and jams from bands featuring

Wade your way through the Saint Paul Art Crawl.



CECILIA SCHILLER

students. Hands-on activities include instrument making and pottery-wheel throwing from the Ceramics Collective. North Star Aluminum Pour and Bohemian Press will also be in attendance, and food trucks will offer nourishment. 6:30 to 10 p.m. Free. 405 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-625-8096. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

OPERA

LA RONDINE

ORDWAY THEATER

The Minnesota Opera's 2018-19 season is a proprietary blend of contemporary and classical. The five-show lineup includes *The Italian Straw Hat*, a comedy by *Godfather* composer Nino Rota, and *Silent Night*, the 2011 Pulitzer Prize winner that originated here in St. Paul. The series culminates in *The Fix*, a brand-new Minnesota Opera original, and Verdi's *La Traviata*, one of the sturdiest pillars of the repertory. In that spirit of melding the classical and the unfamiliar, this year's opener, *La Rondine*, is a deep cut from *La Boheme* and *Madama Butterfly* composer Giacomo Puccini. In this Italian-language romantic drama, a lovestruck Parisian socialite (Celine Byrne) must confront class barriers and societal expectations when she pursues a relationship with a pauper (Leonardo Capalbo). From director Octavio Cardenas and conductor Sergio Alapont. 8 p.m. Thursday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$25-\$200.345 Washington St., St. Paul; 612-333-6669. **Through Sunday** —BRYAN MILLER

FRIDAY 10.12

ART/FESTIVAL

SAINT PAUL ART CRAWL

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Each fall and spring, artists working in St. Paul come together for three days of open studios, pop-up shops, demonstrations, and performances. Thirty-three different locations will host the Saint Paul Art Crawl this autumn, including storefronts, galleries, schools, and workspaces, with Lowertown being the event's main neighborhood. Score some early holiday gifts, with locally made knit items, pottery, paintings, and jewelry for sale. Take a free class at TPT, get your Christmas cards done early at the Northwestern Building, and bring the kids to the amphibian showcase at George Latimer Library. Live performances include jazz jams and flamenco dance. Visit www.saintpaulartcrawl.org for a complete list of locations and happenings, and to download a free MetroTransit pass to the festival. 6 to 10 p.m. Friday; noon to 10 p.m. Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free. **Through Sunday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

FILM

IT'S ALIVE! THREE FRANKENSTEIN CLASSICS

TRYLON CINEMA

When people imagine the distinctive visage of Frankenstein's monster,

they often picture the iconic flattened forehead, deeply sullen eyes, and neck punctuated by two protruding bolts. This is thanks to Jack Pierce, the makeup artist responsible for conceptualizing an array of ghouls for Universal Studios in the 1930s. The initial three films in that studio's enduring *Frankenstein* series screen at the Tylon this weekend. *Frankenstein* (1931) continues to stand alone for the pathos that Boris Karloff brought to his signature role, portraying the reanimated creature as the cruelly tormented casualty of one man's unconscionable ambitions. That film's director, James Whale, returned for the more idiosyncratic sequel, *Bride of Frankenstein* (1935), in which absurdist humor mixes with existential horror as the creature seeks a mate. While less critically acclaimed than the preceding films, *Son of Frankenstein* (1939) is arguably the most entertaining of the bunch, as a Frankenstein heir seeks to restore his family name by—what else—bringing the dead back to life. 7, 8:30, and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3, 4:30, and 6 p.m. Sunday. \$8. 2820 E. 33rd St., Minneapolis; 612-424-5468. **Through Sunday** —BRAD RICHASON

THEATER

GRAND OPENING

THEATRE IN THE ROUND

Jon Hassler, who was born in Minneapolis but grew up in the towns of Staples and Plainview, brought a uniquely empathetic perspective to his novels, which center on common people living their lives in often overlooked dots on the map. His highly autobiographical *Grand Opening* is being produced this season by Theatre in the Round Players. Adapted by Hassler himself, *Grand Opening* recounts the experiences of the Foster family, Minneapolis natives who relocate to a small town with hopes of a fresh start as owners of a modest grocery store. Instead of rustic simplicity, however, the Fosters discover a community with its own stringent codes of conduct and moral propriety, where fierce judgements are leveled upon everything, including work ethics, suspect intellectualism, and religious orientation (most notably the tense divide between Catholics and Protestants). Grounded largely in the perspective of 12-year-old Brendan Foster and incorporating outlooks particular to the whole of small-town society, *Grand Opening* seeks to demystify the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ►

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OCT 13

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OCT 18

AZIZI GIBSON
BACKWARD BOOKS 2 TOUR



OCT 20

OPIUO
SYZYGY WORLD(ISH) TOUR



OCT 20

JONAH MATRANGA



OCT 24

HELL-O-WEEN
W/ WITHER THE TIDE & DEPOTEK



OCT 25

MELODIME
W/ THE BREVET



OCT 28

SAYWE CANFLY/
A SUMMER HIGH



OCT 28

ESSEKS
W/ FRQ NCY & MINDSET



NOV 02

GOOD CHARLOTTE
NORTH AMERICAN TOUR



NOV 06

DEREZ DE'SHON



NOV 07

MINNESOTA
W/ ZEKE BEATS



NOV 08

GIRLS NIGHT OUT
LADIES REVENGE TOUR



NOV 09

DR. FRESCH



NOV 09

AFTER THE BURIAL
W/ THE ACACIA STRAIN



NOV 10

MOODY GOOD



NOV 10

ROAST OF RONNIE RADKE
OF FALLING IN REVERSE



NOV 15

WOOKIEE FOOT
20TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW



NOV 17

STÖÖKI SOUND



NOV 17

BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY



NOV 18

SLANDER
HEADBANGER'S BALL



NOV 21

PALAYE ROYALE
W/ BONES & DEAD POSEY



NOV 21

QUIX
W/ JAMESTON THIEVES



NOV 23

BARELY ALIVE
W/ ELIMINATE & MURDA



NOV 24

MINISTRY
W/ CARPENTER BRUT



NOV 27

UNDEROATH
W/ DANCE GAVIN DANCE & MORE



NOV 28

EMALKAY
W/ PERKULATOR, THELEM, & MORE



NOV 30

SAN HOLO
W/ CHET PORTER & MORE



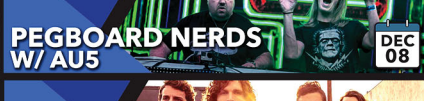
DEC 01

VNV NATION
W/ DE/VISION & HOLYGRAM



DEC 02

PEGBOARD NERDS
W/ AU5



DEC 08

SHLUMP
W/ CONRANK



DEC 15

RIOT TEN
HYPE OR DIE TOUR



DEC 21

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JAN 26

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MAR 02

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SATURDAY

FESTIVAL/LITERARY

TWIN CITIES BOOK FESTIVAL

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

Every fall, thousands of book lovers descend on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds to gather around the written word and the authors who've mastered it, and to stock up on new reads. Among the big-name authors flying in for the 18th annual festival are award-winning Brit Geoff Dyer; Steve Almond, whose latest book, *Bad Stories: What the Hell Just Happened to Our Country*, attributes the outcome of the 2016 presidential election to erroneous narratives we've told ourselves; and Kenya native Ngugi wa Thiong'o, whose memoir, *Wrestling with the Devil*, recounts the year he spent in jail as a political prisoner. Many children's and young adult authors will be in attendance, too, like Hamline professor Sheila O'Connor and janitor-turned-writer Daniel Bernstrom. Get your books signed at the "morning mingle" before a full day of author presentations and children's programming—all for free. Find more info at www.raintaxi.com. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. —ERICA RIVERA



JENNIFER SIMONSON

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

rural Midwest by exposing its vices and acknowledging its virtues. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays. \$18-\$22. 245 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis; 612-333-3010. **Through November 4** —BRAD RICHASON

SATURDAY 10.13

SPORTS

MINNESOTA ROLLERGIRLS: PLANET OF THE SKATES

ROY WILKINS AUDITORIUM

The all-volunteer Minnesota RollerGirls have a long history of channeling proceeds toward charitable enterprises, including the two organizations selected as recipients for the upcoming season: the Ann Bancroft Foundation's Let Me Play Grant (funding athletic programs for girls) and the Rebecca Foundation (promoting sustainable cloth diaper programs). The latter will be the highlighted cause for Planet of the Skates, a season-opening tournament featuring all four Minnesota RollerGirls squads: Dagger Dolls, Rockits, Atomic Bombshells, and the Garda Belts. Not to overlook the prestige of the Gilded Steak awarded to the tournament winner, but the real draw is in having the opportunity to see all of the competitors, crowd favorites and newbies alike, in action on the circular track. The first 200 fans will receive a Minnesota RollerGirls T-shirt, and the halftime entertainment will be provided by the Saint Paul School of Rock Allstars. 6 p.m. \$15-\$19. 175 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul; 320-634-MNRG. —BRAD RICHASON

BIKES/LGBTQ

CIRQUE DU SOGAY: NINE IS FINE

THE BIKE COP-OP

Now in its ninth year, the Cirque du SoGay is an annual tradition for many LGBTQ bike enthusiasts. Each gathering is a delightful mix of goofiness, education, and raunch. Choose between two routes, a more casual 15-mile ride or a 25-mile journey for all-stars. You'll make your way to a variety of stops and face a series of challenges, including local LGBTQ trivia, condom shenanigans, cheeky bean-bag tosses, and more. The whole thing concludes at Solcana Fitness, where there will be prizes, performances, and a chill, booze-free after party. Sign up or look into volunteering at queerbikegang.com. 2 to 9 p.m. \$10-\$15 donation. 3016 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



Ladies duke it out on wheels at Roy Wilkins.

RON WILBUR

ART/PARTY

ARTCRANK MSP

IDS CENTER

Since 2012, ARTCRANK has been the place to be for people who love art, people who love bikes, and, of course, the many people who love both. Run by local husband-and-wife team Charles Youel and Nicki McCracken, the one-day event features handmade, bicycle-inspired posters, with limited-edition prints available for purchase. It's an art show and it's a bike community get-together, and there's usually plenty of beer to keep things interesting. The incomparable Adam Turman will return once again with his much-loved design aesthetic, along with over 40 artists, illustrators, designers, and creatives who all bring their unique takes on finding the cycle sublime. Find more details at www.artcrank.com. 4 to 10 p.m. Free. 80 S. Eighth St., Minneapolis. —Sheila Regan

SUNDAY 10.14

DOGS/BEER

HOWL-O-WEEN

BENT BREWSTILLERY

Cap off your weekend by hanging out with dogs in costumes. This Sunday, Bent Brewstillery will be getting into the holiday spirit with a daylong Halloween party open to humans and pups. People are welcome to dress in costume, and doggos are especially encouraged to. Locally made pet items from crafters and artisans will be for sale, and games and prizes will be hosted by Sidewalk Dog. Have a glamour shot taken with your four-legged buddy, bob for treats, and carve a pumpkin. Be sure to wash it all down with a pint. All ages. Noon to 6 p.m. 1744 Terrace Dr., Roseville; 844-879-2368. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

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FILM

WOMAN OF THE YEAR, 1900

Colette is a period piece for the time of #TimesUp

Keira Knightley



ROBERT VIGLASKY / BLEECKER STREET

BY BRYAN MILLER

The historical biopic is among the stateliest—and stalest—film genres.

So often these movies shamle stiffly like Wikipedia pages brought to artificial life; they soft-pedal wishful hagiography; they revel in prosthetic-enhanced performances that lapse into impersonations.

They're boring.

In the doomed effort to squeeze an entire lifetime into two hours, filmmakers tend to turn a complex existence into a series of epiphanies and predestined inevitabilities. It's a cardinal sin of the historical biopic, one director and co-writer Wash Westmoreland smartly sidesteps in the mostly conventional but compelling *Colette*.

Westmoreland confines the action from the title character's late girlhood in the French countryside to her ascension as a sexually and professionally independent artist in pre-World War Paris. It's the literary equivalent of a superhero origin story.

Good thing, too, as French author and performer Colette's career stretched through the Parisian Belle Époque to the golden age of Hollywood, when her best-known novel, *Gigi*, became a stage production starring a

young Audrey Hepburn and, just a few years after *Colette*'s death, was adapted into an Academy Award-winning film.

Keira Knightley stars in the title role. But before she emerges as the famous Colette, she's Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette, daughter of a modest family who marries Henry Gauthier-Villars (Dominic West), a pseudo-intellectual blowhard who publishes ghost-written articles, reviews, and fiction under the pseudonym "Willy." He also refers to himself frequently in the third person as "Willy," which establishes his perfidy well before he hoards the accolades for a series of novels secretly written by his young socialite wife.

Colette's four published novels about ingénue heroine Claudine created an instant sensation in Paris. They not only launched stage productions and a lucrative merchandising line, the character set the standard for the modern young French woman. That the stories were largely autobiographical made it all the more confounding when Willy claimed credit for inventing them.

Dominic West is all beard and bluster as Willy, whose jackassery is tempered just enough to keep him from tipping into outright villainy. He does recognize his wife's brilliance, not to mention her sexual omnivorousness, which adds interesting layers of

COLETTE

directed by Wash Westmoreland
Uptown Theatre, now open

complexity to their fraught relationship.

West's charm is crucial, but *Colette* is absolutely a showcase for Knightley. She gives a subtle performance that parleys her straight-lined beauty to shift, almost imperceptibly, from practical country girl to gender-flouting libertine. It's not difficult at all to image an entire European city hinging on her every whim.

In its stodgier moments, *Colette* does have the whiff of a homework assignment. Just as often, though, it's compellingly cinematic, especially in the ornate recreations of the Parisian high-culture scene.

And of course *Colette* is timely, with its themes of gender non-conformity and women seizing their due credit in the workplace and the art world. The script gets a bit didactic in its feminist intersectionality, but some clumsiness aside, the film deals thoughtfully and unfussily with the heroine's complicated sexuality.

Westmoreland doesn't execute the film with the kind of uncommon style that made Colette herself famous, but he is able to plausibly convey it—which is far more than most biopics are able to achieve. **C+**



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FRI, OCT 12



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SAT, OCT 13



BENEFIT FOR DAVE HILL

WITH HOOPSNAKES
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FRI, OCT 19



EASTON CORBIN WITH GUEST

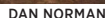
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UPCOMING:

OCT 20 APRIL WINE AND HEAD EAST
OCT 26 FABULOUS ARMADILLOS
TAKIN' IT TO THE LIMIT: EAGLES TRIBUTE
OCT 27 HALLOWEEN DANCE W. MATERIAL GIRL
A LADY GAGA & MADONNA TRIBUTE
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The two-hander, directed by the company's artistic director Tyler Michaels, is staged at Soma Studios, a flexible new art space in the Grain Belt building. Chairs surround the performance space in a thrust configuration, making for an experience that genuinely deserves the overused descriptor "intimate." We feel the proxim-

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IRON FORK

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STREET *Style*

FASHIONOPOLIS Mpls.St.Paul Magazine's fall fashion show at Aria on October 3. **BY PIERRE WARE**



MAZIE VENTURA

26, OPERATION MANAGEMENT FOR GRETCHEN VENTURA JEWELRY

What are you wearing?

Camo pants from Urban Outfitters, DKNY bra purchased by my mom 30 years ago, velvet button-up from CP Shades, CNC Costume National boots, necklace by Gretchen Ventura, vintage black Prada belt.

Describe your style:

Skate- and street style-influenced; feminine and fashion-forward with an edge.

What are your favorite places to shop?

For everyday wear I love Common Apparel. Also Empressed Threads and taking a stroll through my mother's closet.



KELSEY MCLAUGHLIN

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST

What are you wearing?

Almost exclusively vintage. Waistcoat, '80s jumpsuit, and purse are all thrifted from Arc's Value Village, with vintage earrings from Hidden Treasures thrift store. Shoes are from Forever 21, from almost five years ago.

Describe your style:

An eclectic mix of rocker-inspired vintage, feminine details, and classic pieces, which I like to bring together to create unexpected ensembles.

What are your favorite places to shop?

Arc's Value Village, Hidden Treasures thrift store, and Goodwill.



GLORIA YANG

27, BLOGGER

What are you wearing?

Dress by Nasty Gal, lace boots from Miss Lola, and Gucci belt bag.

Describe your style:

Modern and trendy with a touch of edginess.

How did this year's Fashionopolis inspire your style?

This year was my first time; I wasn't sure what to expect but I immediately felt like I belonged. I was inspired by the people, the thriving culture, and the unique designs. The more unusual the design is, the more it speaks to me. I'm all about how it makes me feel and that's what I love the most about fashion. I will definitely be coming back.



JEILAH K

21, TECHNICAL IT CONSULTANT

What are you wearing?

Vintage dress, Pursey handbag, and Zara heels.

Describe your style:

Classic, with tailoring that loves the woman and a pop of color.

What are your favorite places to shop?

Autumn's Vintage is my absolute favorite! Not only does she have incredible one-of-a-kind pieces, but she also takes time to know the individual and shop just for you and your body type.

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Super America Quartet, Trombone Band,
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THURSDAY OCT 11 • 9 PM • \$5

Shannon Lay, Night Shop,
Humbird

FRIDAY OCT 12 • 9 PM • \$7

Glow Mechanics (release),
Jayso Creative, Adriatic

SATURDAY OCT 13 • 9 PM • \$8

Longshot w/ Dreamcrusher,
Lunch Duchess, Sugo

SUNDAY OCT 14 • 9 PM • \$5

Ritual Talk (NYC)
w/ Beasthead, Little Lizard

THURSDAY OCT 18 • 10 PM • 2 AM • \$5

Slipmats Radio & Friends,
A Showcase

SATURDAY OCT 20

BRUNCH SHOW
w/ Trash Catties, Wax Lead

UPCOMING

11/2 The Semi-Pro Comedy Show
11/3 She Rock 18+ Jam
Mortimer's Light Up

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P.O.S (left) and Astronautalis



GRAHAM TOLBERT

FOUR SIXES CLASH

As Four Fists, P.O.S and Astronautalis combine rap skill and punk spirit on *6666*

BY MICHAEL MADDEN

P.O.S and Astronautalis may just now be releasing their debut album as Four Fists, *6666*, but they've known each other for most of their recording careers.

The two Minneapolis alt-rappers first met on the 2004 Warped Tour, just as the now-defunct rock expedition across North America was beginning to embrace more hip-hop. P.O.S was selling merch

for *Seven's Travels*-era Atmosphere; Astronautalis, a Jacksonville, Florida native, was "playing these 30-minute time slot shows for no money—just hustling merch every day to get enough gas money to get to the next city," he says. P.O.S, then a fledgling performer, scored a few Warped shows of his own, and as soon as these rappers saw what the other could do onstage, they knew a future collaboration was inevitable.

"I feel I have a super-natural and easy connection with him and always have," says P.O.S. "Just like me with Doomtree."

Later in the '00s, the two would appear on hidden tracks on each other's albums (Astronautalis' *Pomegranate* in 2008 and then P.O.S' *Never Better*, the 10th anniversary of which he'll be celebrating with a First Avenue show and reissue early next year). They recorded two songs as Four Fists, "MMMMMHMMMMM" and "Please Go," taking their group name from a 1920 F. Scott Fitzgerald short story, but those tracks wouldn't be released until 2013, at the urging of Doomtree mastermind Lazerbeak. Solo albums, other projects, and various "life shit" (like P.O.S' emergency kidney transplant in 2012) delayed plans to release a full album.

"Finally, this last year, everyone looked at everyone's schedules and were like, 'Oh my God, it's gotta happen now or it's never gonna happen,'" says Astronautalis, who relocated to the Twin Cities in 2011.

Making the album, out this Friday via Doomtree Records, wasn't as time-consuming as they'd expected, thanks in part to the way each rapper's artistic idiosyncrasies complement the other's.

"Different friends bring out different stuff," P.O.S says. "With Astronautalis, it's more like I wanna be a better writer. I know I rap fine, I just wanna be a real good writer. And I feel like he cuts a little bit looser, 'cause I'm naturally a pretty goofy person in real life. Even if my songs are pretty serious, I'm really silly at times on my records. I let a lot of that stuff in the track, and I think that he does that when we're working together more than he does that by himself."

Astronautalis agrees. "I'm an over-thinker when I'm on my own shit. That was part of the plan of how these songs were made, too: We threw a song down with our ideas in the roughest form and moved the fuck on. Like, 'That's good enough. We'll figure it out later.' We moved on, and that really pushed me forward, too, because it was just like I didn't have time to worry about shit."

They both recall a quote from Doomtree rapper Sims: "The hardest thing in the world is to make music alone, and the easiest thing in the world is making music with your friends."

While various producers served up the album's individual beats, the sound of the completed project owes a good deal to the efforts of Dutch producer Subp Yao. "After we were done with the songs over

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MUSIC

the beats we got from our friends, we took the whole record, lyrics and beats, and sent it all to Subp Yao to basically remix the whole thing,” says P.O.S. “It’s not ‘remixes,’ but we definitely sent him the tracks and told him to get loose, like, ‘Ruin this. Throw this in the blender.’”

“There’s some songs where he totally guts a song, and totally changed everything, and then there’s some songs where he just tweaks stuff and adds little synthesizers and drums—doing more of the role of what a rock producer does,” adds Astronautalis. “He really shaped the record. It was this funny thing where ultimately it sort of felt like we put the album in a bottle and threw it into the ocean, and it washed up on shore three months later, done.”

6666 is an explosive, fast, noisy alt-rap record, but it’s also thoroughly punk in spirit, specifically referencing the Clash and their late frontman, Joe Strummer. Astronautalis started listening to the legendary London punks as a kid when his brother gifted him their fifth album, 1982’s *Combat Rock*, (the one with “Rock the Casbah” and “Should I Stay or Should I Go.”)

“Joe Strummer’s life became something I kept finding inspiration in,” he says. “They made this really great documentary, *The Future Is Unwritten*, about him. Just incredible. I think almost every guy should watch this documentary, but every artist in their 30s should really watch this. It’s really about his life coming out of being sort of an asshole, selfish musician and then going through this huge life change—and then ultimately finding this wonderful inner peace later in his life. His growth, to me, is sort of the prototype of how you handle adulthood as a fuckin’ idiot punk.”

“I consider myself a punk still,” says the now 37-year-old P.O.S., who started playing in punk bands in the late ’90s. “Even the way you look at theories and life, and take lyrics and take energy, and the way you treat people and people treat

each other, life changes so much as you get older. I feel like that’s where a lot of the punk comes out

on this record to me, more than just the names of some songs and references lyrically. The spirit of being that guy with a mohawk and spiky clothes that slowly doesn’t put his mohawk up anymore and wears a work jacket, but still has the same fuckin’ ethics.

“This record’s about being fuckin’ adults in real life,” he says. “The first half of it punches you in the face about it, and the second half buys you a beer about it.”

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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): In his book *The Snow Leopard*, Peter Matthiessen describes his quest to glimpse the elusive and rarely seen creature in the Himalayas. "Its uncompromising yellow eyes, wired into the depths of its unfathomable spirit," he writes, give it a "terrible beauty" that is "the very stuff of human longing." He loves the snow leopard so much, he says, that it is the animal he "would most like to be eaten by." I bring this up, Aries, because now would be a good time, astrologically speaking, for you to identify what animal you would most like to be eaten by. In other words, what creature would you most like to learn from and be inspired by? What beautiful beast has the most to give you?

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Richard Nelson is an anthropologist who has lived for years with the indigenous Koyukon people of Alaska. He lauds their "careful watching of the same events in the same place" over long periods of time, noting how this enables them to cultivate a rich relationship with their surroundings that is incomprehensible to us civilized Westerners. He concludes, "There may be more to learn by climbing the same mountain a hundred times than by climbing a hundred different mountains." I think that's excellent counsel for you to employ in the coming weeks.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "It is sad that unless you are born a god, your life, from its very beginning, is a mystery to you," writes Gemini author Jamaica Kincaid. I disagree with her because she implies that if you're human, your life is a complete and utter mystery, whereas my observation has been that for most of us, our lives are no more than 80 percent mystery. Some lucky ones have even deciphered as much as 65 percent, leaving only 35 percent mystery. What's your percentage? I expect that between now and November 1, you can increase your understanding by at least 10 percent.

♊ CANCER (June 21-July 22): You Cancerians may not possess the mental dexterity of Virgos or the acute cleverness of Gemini's, but you have the most soulful intelligence in the zodiac. Your empathetic intuition is among your greatest treasures. Your capacity to feel deeply gives you the ability to intensely understand the inner workings of life. Sometimes you take this subtle acumen for granted. It may be hard for you to believe that others are stuck at a high-school level of emotional skill when you have the equivalent of a PhD. Everything I just said is a prelude to my advice. In the coming weeks, I doubt you can solve your big riddle through rational analysis. Your best strategy is to deeply experience all the interesting feelings that are rising up in you.

♊ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): While a young man, the future Roman leader Julius Caesar was kidnapped by Sicilian pirates. They proposed a ransom of 620 kilograms of silver. Caesar was incensed at the small size of the ransom—he believed he was worth more—and demanded that his captors raise the sum to 1,550 kilograms. I'd love to see you unleash that kind of bravado in the coming weeks. Leo—preferably without getting yourself kidnapped. In my opinion, it's crucial that you know how valuable you are, and make sure everyone else knows, as well.

♊ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A Chinese proverb says, "Tension is who you think you should be. Relaxation is who you are." I'm happy to let you know that you are currently more receptive to this truth than maybe you have ever been. Furthermore, you have more power than usual to change your life in ways that incorporate this truth. To get started, meditate on the hypothesis that you can get more good work done if you're calm and composed than if you're agitated and trying too hard.

♊ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): My astrological analysis suggests that life is conspiring to render you extra excited and unusually animated and highly motivated. I bet that if you cooperate with the natural rhythms, you will feel stirred, playful, and delighted. So how can you best use this gift? How might you take maximum advantage of the lucky breaks and bursts of grace that will be arriving? Here's my opinion: Be more focused on discovering possibilities than making final decisions. Feed your sense of wonder and awe rather than your drive to figure everything out. Give more power to what you can imagine than to what you already know. Being practical is fine as long as you're idealistically practical.

♊ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): How far is it from the Land of the Lost to the Land of the Lost and Found? What's the best route to take? Who and what are likely to provide the best help? If you approach those questions with a crisply optimistic attitude, you can gather a wealth of useful information in a relatively short time. The more research you do about the journey, the faster it will go and the more painless it will be. Here's another fertile question to meditate on: Is there a smart and kind way to give up your attachment to a supposedly important thing that is actually quite burdensome?

♊ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In her only novel, *Save Me the Waltz*, Zelda Fitzgerald described her main character like this: "She quietly expected great things to happen to her, and no doubt that's one of the reasons why they did." That's a bit too much like fairy-tale wisdom for me to endorse it unconditionally. But I do believe it may sometimes be a valid hypothesis—especially for you Sagittarians in the coming months. Your faith in yourself and your desire to have interesting fun will be even more important than usual in determining what adventures you will have. I suggest you start now to lay the groundwork for this exhilarating challenge.

♊ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Russian philosopher George Gurdjieff taught that most people are virtually sleepwalking even during the day. He said we're permanently stuck on automatic pilot, prone to reacting in mechanical ways to every event that comes our way. Psychology pioneer Sigmund Freud had an equally dim view of us humans. He believed that it's our normal state to be neurotic, that most of us are chronically out of sync with our surroundings. Now here's the good news, Capricorn. You're at least temporarily in a favorable position to refute both men's theories. In fact, I'll boldly predict that in the next three weeks you'll be as authentic and awake and at peace as you've been in years.

♊ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In the late 19th century, American botanist George Washington Carver began to champion the nutritional value of peanuts. His influence led to the plant being grown and used more extensively. Although he accomplished many other innovations, including techniques for enhancing depleted soils, he became famous as the Peanut Man. Later in life, he told the story that while young he had prayed to God to show him the mystery of the universe, but God turned him down, saying, "That's for me alone." So George asked God to show him the mystery of the peanut, and God agreed, saying, "that's more nearly your size." The coming weeks will be a great time for you to seek a comparable revelation, Aquarius.

♊ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Every year, people discard 3.3 million pounds of chewing gum on the streets of Amsterdam. A company named Gumdrop has begun to harvest that waste and use it to make soles for its new brand of sneakers, Gumshoe. A spokesperson said the intention was to "create a product people actually want from something no one cares about." I'd love it if you were inspired by this visionary act of recycling, Pisces. According to my reading of the cosmic omens, you now have exceptional powers to transform something you don't want into something you do want.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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64						65						66		

MAKING A BEELINE

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

- 1 Hoops assist
- 5 Big boom maker
- 10 Close the gap
- 14 British prep school
- 15 Relating to the ear
- 16 Cryptocurrency whose name is a numeric prefix

- 17 Area for hammers?
- 19 Safe boats
- 20 Supper club, maybe?
- 21 Trashy-news site
- 22 Olive-skinned
- 24 Talk Like A Pirate Day chortle

- 26 Not much to look at
- 27 Expel a cupcake?
- 33 Noble gas
- 36 Gather some wool
- 37 Short person's note
- 38 Sole problem
- 39 Go "pop"
- 40 "Didn't hurt a bit"
- 41 "Much ___ About Mousing" ("Tom and Jerry" cartoon)

- 42 Clears a level?
- 43 Mini calendars
- 44 Ursine caution?
- 47 "American Horror Story" rating
- 48 Spouts off
- 52 Visits
- 55 Sober ___ judge
- 56 Writer / comedian Peyser
- 57 Hot rock
- 58 Bit of holly used in a bartender's drink?

- 61 ASUS rival
- 62 What verbs and nouns must do
- 63 Mario ___
- 64 It's a job
- 65 Hourglass figures?
- 66 Eithne Bhraonáin's stage name

Down

- 1 "Insatiable" star ___ Ryan
- 2 Literary Calvino
- 3 It goes on for weeks
- 4 Liberal arts subj.
- 5 "Rick and Morty" creator Dan
- 6 Word on the street
- 7 Spaniard's gold
- 8 Staffs
- 9 Unleashed anger towards someone
- 10 Lip-curling faces
- 11 "Let's start drinking!"
- 12 Egyptian cross
- 13 Prying
- 18 Actor Suplee
- 23 Gelatinlike base
- 25 Clarinet's cousin
- 28 Japanese truck maker
- 29 Really play the guitar
- 30 Frankfurt's state
- 31 Christian cross
- 32 Some laughs
- 33 Literary skipper
- 34 Took an Uber
- 35 Rub in
- 39 He was crucified

- beside Jesus
- 40 Its catalog has more copies printed annually than the Bible
- 42 Vinyl label nos.
- 43 "Beat it"
- 45 Place to leave one's home for a while?
- 46 Nibbles
- 49 Houston resident
- 50 Each possible
- 51 "Always Comfortable" sloganeer
- 52 Picnic tubful
- 53 Snack served with cabbage, maybe
- 54 In which you might assume the position
- 55 Improved, as cheese
- 59 Coffee holder
- 60 Men's name that's is 75% of 40-Down

Last Week's Answer

C	R	O	C	A	R	T	E				T	O	S	S
H	E	P	A	D	O	R	E	D		S	A	B	L	E
O	M	E	N	A	P	O	L	I		P	O	S	E	R
K	I	N	G	P	I	N		S	L	O	B	E	A	M
E	X	M	A	T	E		U	S	E	T	O	R	Z	O
D	E	R	N		R	A	N	O	N	T	O	V	E	N
			D	I	E	S		B	A	N	D	I	T	E
				F	I	R	E	W	A	L	L	S		
O	R	B	S		T	E	F	A	N		Y	A	P	S
V	I	L	A		S	S	O	R	T	S		B	L	O
E	V	A		C	H	E	R	E		A	F	R	A	M
R	I	N	K		I	T	T		D	I	L	A	T	E
L	E	D	T	V		A	C	A	D	I	A	T	O	M
A	R	E	N	A		S	U	S	S	E	X	E	N	A
P	A	R	T				T	H	O	S	E	D	E	N

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to tell the truth or
keep your lips sealed



Dan Savage

I was involved with a straight man who enjoys cross-dressing and taking explicit photos. The problem is that the props he uses belong to his three children, all under age 12. For example, he dressed up as a slutty schoolgirl and wore his daughter's backpack. He dressed up as a slutty cowgirl and posed with his son's stuffed horse. He even had the horse eating his "carrot." I told him he should not use his children's things as props. He believes that his children will never see the photos, so no harm will come of it. I'm horrified at the thought of these kids (perhaps as adults) stumbling over these pictures. He posts them on Instagram and Facebook, so they aren't private and he can't control where they go. It's one of the reasons I ended the relationship. Is there anything I can say to him?

CANCELED DEFINITELY PROMISING
RELATIONSHIP OVER PHOTO SESSIONS

You told him what he's doing is wrong, you explained the enormous risk he's running, and you dumped him, CDPROPS. You could take one last run at it and try to explain that his children finding these photos isn't one of those "low-risk, high-consequence events," i.e., something that's unlikely to happen but would be utterly disastrous if it did. (Think of the super volcano that is Yellowstone National Park erupting or a deranged, racist billionaire somehow managing to win a U.S. presidential election.) Nope, if he's posting these photos online, at least one of his children will stumble over them—or one of their friends will. ("Hey, isn't this your dad? And your backpack?") Your ex needs to knock this shit off, and will most likely need the help of a mental-health pro in order to do so.

My parents were married for almost 40 years—and on paper, things seemed fine. They rarely fought and were an example of a strong, monogamous marriage until the day my mother died. Recently, I found writings by my dad revealing he had several casual encounters with men over the course of their marriage. Do I tell him I know? We are close, but sex isn't something

we usually discuss. What should I do with this information, if anything?

A DEEPLY UPSETTING LIE THAT SCALDS

When you say their relationship seemed fine "on paper," ADULTS, what you mean is their relationship was decent and loving. Well, now you know it wasn't perfect—but no relationship is. Your mother is dead (I'm sorry for your loss), and either she made peace with this fact about her husband long ago or she never knew about it. Either way, no good will come from confronting your father about the handful of dicks he sucked decades ago.

I'm married and poly, with one partner in addition to my husband. My partner has a friend-with-benefits arrangement with a woman he's been with since before we met. The FWB is not poly, but she's always known my partner is. She has always insisted they're not a couple, but he knows she would be hurt if she found out he was with someone else, so he has avoided telling her he's now also with me. I don't like being someone's secret. My husband knows I'm with someone else and is fine with it. If my partner's FWB felt the same, I wouldn't see a problem. But this feels oddly like I'm helping my partner cheat on his FWB, even though they're "not a couple" (her words). So it's not cheating... is it?

PRETTY OBVIOUSLY LOST, YEAH

It's not cheating—it's plausible deniability. Your partner's FWB would rather not know he's seeing anyone else, so she doesn't ask him about his other partners and he doesn't tell. Accommodating his FWB's desire not to know about other partners—doing the DADT open thing—does mean keeping you a secret, POLY, at least from her. If you're not comfortable with that, you'll have to end things with your partner.

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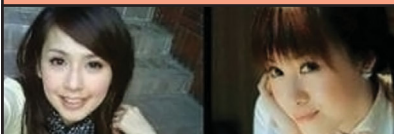
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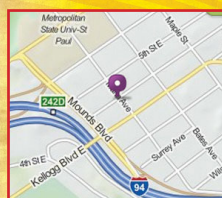
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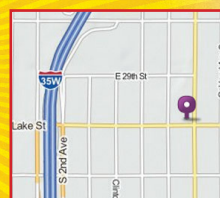
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